


REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Final Official Action mailed December 31, 2002. In the present paper, Applicant has amended claims 25 and 38, has added claims 39 and 40 and has cancelled claims 1-4, 11-14, 21 and 35-37. Claims 25-34 and 38-40 are now presented for the Examiner's consideration in view of the following remarks:

The Examiner has allowed claims 25-34 and has indicated that objected-to claims 36-38 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's rejections, objected-to claims 36 and 37 have been re-presented in independent form as claims 39 and 40, respectively, and the dependency of corresponding dependent claim 38 has been changed to be dependent upon new independent claim 40. Further, claim 25 has been amended to correct a clerical error. All rejected claims have been cancelled.

Applicants submit that all claims currently in the case are now allowed or allowable, and that the application is now in condition to proceed to issuance.

Respectfully,

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